CHAPTER XXV.

Continued. "'It was years ago, after I had a par alytic stroke and I lay in a miserable basement in a condition more helpless than that in which I am now. She saw me in passing, and moved by my pale face, I suppose, stopped and gave me a little bundle of fruit which she was carrying home for her own meal. Poverty recognizes poverty, and I saw hers, but I could not say her nay nor refuse her gift, nor even thank her for what made my heart leap with joy, and when she passed again and yet again, each time with a smile that filled my dark room with the sunshine of heaven, I grew to live in the light of her coming and going, till there was no daylight for me if she did not pass, and no night shadows for me if she did. I was ignorant of her name. She never thought to tell me, and I had no power to ask. But I saw that her hands were rough with work, though her face was one of the loveliest that could be seen, and sometimes I caught a glimpse of the heavy bundle which she always carried on the further side of her, as if she knew I would grieve to see it so heavy and yet be unable to relieve her.

"'And weeks went by, and months, and she never forgot to smile or say a word of hope or drop me a flower, which must often have been bought at the expense of a meal, for her clothes were very poor and thin, and her face, for all her beauty, had that sharp, heartbreaking look which only comes from insufficient food and hard work. 'And I, loving her as we only love the being who keeps us from despair, had to see all this, and only look the anguish and gratitude with which my heart was breaking. I could not even pray for her to take from me the only precious thing which I possessed-my mother's ring. And when I saw her growing paler each day, and walking with feebler steps, and lingering with sweeter, but ah! sweeter smiles as she passed the window, which had now become like a shrine between us, I used to suffer beyond the power of tongue to tell; not because I could not act a man's part and snatch her from the work that was destroying her, but because I did not know what name to call her by when I prayed to heaven to guard her. And she never thought to tell me, though she loved me as few women love the strong and the helpful. "'At last-ah! to think that I should have lived so many years since thenthere came a day when she could hardly falter to my window. Only love could have sustained her, for she had to clutch the rails of the fence between us to keep herself from falling, and

when I just looked and looked at her in my despairing way she cried softly: "If I do not come again, know that I am dead, dear friend," and then she would have gone, but that the awful anguish within me found vent in one mighty effort and I cried: "Oh, tell me your name, sweet angel; tell me your name!" and then fell forward from my chair, stricken again and helpless. But when, in time-I know not how long-I came to myself again, they put a book in my hand, which had been left for me on the evening of that day, and on the fly-leaf of the book I read these ""My name is Jenny Rogers. Pray

for me, as I shall die praying for you.' 'That book is under my head now, and when I am buried you will see that it is laid under these flowers you have given me.

"And was that the end?" I impetuously cried. 'Did you never see or hear

from her again?' "'Never. And so I know she died.

But other girls of her name and character still live. For every three she suffered, for every weary hour she passed, another shall reap joy and realize comfort. You have promised it, and I rely upon you to keep your word as I would rely upon myself. Ah, sweet peace, I know thee at last! Fifty years have I sought thee, and, now, as I die, thou haltest at my bedside!"

"Could I disturb such a hope? Quixotic as his scheme was, I had no right to criticise it. I might have suggested that he should make fifty girls comfortable instead of one enormously rich, but in my position any interference seemed an impertinence, and might have undermined a faith which it behooved me to see preserved in him. Besides, it was rapidly becoming too late for expostulation. The strength which had sustained him through this final interview was fast ebbing away, and I felt that it was rather my duty to speak to him of another world than to delay his thoughts any longer upon this.

"I therefore hastened to give him my last assurances, and pointing to the hall where the lawyer stood, asked him if he would feel any easier if his wishes were expressed on paper. But he said 'No;' that he had unbounded confidence in me, and looked at me so lovingly that my heart lost some of its oppression, and my future task appeared for the moment less onerous. "'But I should like to see the lawyer

for a moment,' he said. "And, obedient to his last wish, I called in Mr. Cutting and left them for an instant together. What they said I never knew, but from the lawyer's manner I judged it to be something of a peculiar nature, for he smiled as I came back and gave me another of poor girl, toward whom I finally turned

his odd looks. "In another moment the dying man had given one joyful cry, uttered the word 'Jenny,' and fallen back upon his pillow dead."

CHAPTER XXVI.

that I was not at liberty to divide the a good girl, but she was an illiterate are beds of tertiary coal over 260 feet fortune which had been left me, and one, and only passably pretty. How- thick, and extensive seams of oil-bearthen waited to see if the will would be ever, I might have found worth in her ing shale exist in New South Wales

only one or two adventurers put in claims, and these were so manifestly fraudulent that the matter was never firmly settled in my position and recognized as the legal possessor of these millions I quickly left Cleveland and went to New York. Taking rooms in the most retired hotel I could find I began the search delegated to me. I went, first, to the directory and took the addresses of all the families by the name of 'Rogers' that were to be found there; then where their position warranted it I visited these families, and where it did not, I learned through such persons as I thought it safe to employ, whether there was a Jenny among the daughters, and if there was I contrived to see the girl, often finding

one glimpse to be enough to satisfy me as to her ineligibility. "The child of Abram Rogers was the first one that struck me favorably. Not that I was satisfied even with her beauty, but I had seen so many bold and uncultivated girls among my wanderings among the poorer classes, could not but be struck by her innocent naivete of expression and the inherent goodness to be discerned in her sweet face. But when I had made up my mind to know her better, and, with this purpose in view, called at the house where she lived, I was shocked to hear that sickness and death had been before me, and that the fair young girl had passed forever from my reach and from that of the money with which I had contemplated endowing

"Thrown off my balance by this incldent I next visited the various schools and though I did not find a scholar to suit me, I heard of a young teacher who was said to possess every personal and mental attraction which one could desire in a woman. So warmly was she praised that I became assured even before seeing her that my task was at an end, and could hardly contain my impatience while waiting for the letter of introduction which I had sought for and obtained from a member of the school board, in whom I was happy to

recognize an old friend. "And when I went into this girl's and the marks of good taste which everywhere abounded, I did not need the sight of her winning yet intelligent face to recognize the presence of one of those domestic angels who grace any home and nobly fill the most eleshe not risen to her feet, as she presently did, and thereby betrayed a serious lameness, which robbed her of that indisputable claim to beauty upon I should doubtless have committed myself irretrievably, for my sympathy and interest had both been awakened, and more than this was unnecesary at mire." the time, so weary had I become of my task and so hopeless was I of finding any worthy prototype of the noble and beautiful being who had been so much beloved by Mr. Delancy.

"But this physical disability of hers at once marked her as unfit for the position for which I sought her. I dared not give Mr. Delancy's money to one conspicuous for a defect when he had bidden me choose absolute beauty, at least not till I had sought further and found beyond all dispute that the city held no one of her name at once more charming and more worthy. So I recommenced my search, and this time went the round of the private schools.

"And here I want to say that, whatever consequences may have followed my undoubtedly mysterious actions. I am conscious of having done nothing that would in any way lay me open to the charge even of ungentlemanly conduct. I tried to make my inquiries and take all necessary observations myself, which was, perhaps, a mistake, but I never wilfully led any girl to think I I ever breathe a word or give a glance that could be wrongly misconstrued without the aid of the girl's own vanity. I say this now, because, according to Mr. Gryce, events for which I am not in any way responsible followed my discovery of a very pretty Miss Rogers in Miss Hadden's school. She received a letter inviting her to an interview in the Jersey depot. But I never wrote that letter. I simply paused when she and her companion passed by me on their way to church or concert, looking at her most certainly, but not with impertinence, or even with any extraordinary interest, for I soon saw that she possessed nothing beside a rather ordinary prettiness to recommend her to my regard, and mere prettiness, even of an extraordinary nature, was not enough to charm these millions out of my pocket as long as there was a single Jenny Rogers in New York who possessed virtue as well as beauty, and character as well

as grace. "From her, then, I soon turned, what ever evidence you may adduce to the contrary. If a card bearing my name was found in a letter received by her that card was either stolen from my pocket or forged by some persons anx ious to get me into trouble. I was seeking a noble, self-sacrificing woman, not a silly and romantic school girl

"Nor do I understand or seek to explain the violent death of that other in sheer perplexity and despair. 1 bought the bonbons that were found in her room, because I had seen her ment geologists of Victoria and Queensstand one night with wistful eyes before a famous confectioner's, but I cer- square miles of coal-bearing country tainly did not poison them, or, indeed, tamper with them in any way. I did The probable quantity of coal available not even upon the box, if I remember rightly. What the result of my ac- seams ranging from two to seventeen "I took no one into my confidence. I quaintanceship with her might have feet in thickness, is not less than merely told Mr. Cutting and the doctor been I cannot tell. She seemed to be 240,448,053,000 tons. In Victoria there

contested. I expected it would be, but if the opportunity had been mine of and Tasmania.

sounding her nature, but I was prevented doing this by her sudden death.

"I am told-and this is another mystery which I cannot explain-that she received a letter of warning against me; warning, when I only meant her good! As to who was the writer of this anonymous note I cannot even hazard a guess. The police must determine that. I can only repeat what said before, that my conduct toward her was without any show of disrespect, and that neither to the poorest of these young girls nor to the best endowed did I ever show attention which was not in perfect accord with the purpose for which I sought them.

"And now I come to the experience which brings me here, and explains why I continue to obtrude myself in carried into court. When I felt myself Miss Aspinwall's parlors, notwithstanding the fact that my presence there is not wholly welcome to some, at least, of the persons I meet there. Miss Rogers' name is 'Jenny;' she is beautiful as are few of any name or circumstance, and"-his voice showed feeling here-"she has mind and soul which acquaintanceship proves to be not only gifted but elevated. I cannot turn my back upon such a perfect embodiment of all I have been told to seek for. Her very disappointmentswe know she has had them-make her cause sacred in my eyes. I made up my mind at my second interview that the girl I had so long sought for was found, and, having come to this conclusion, considered it only proper that she should learn to know me well, so that when the moment came for me to reveal my intentions she should not be constrained by any secret doubts or aversions from accepting a gift that is almost equivalent to a small kingdom. where I naturally went first, that I Do I make myself understood, Mr. Degraw?"

The artist, who had passed through an infinite number of emotions and phases of feeling during this long recital, rose with a start at this sudden appeal and enthusiastically held out his hand

a "Perfectly, perfectly," he exclaimed. "How can I thank you enough for your kindness in letting me be present at these explanations. I assure you that I feel the coals of fire burning on my head, and only hope that you will relieve me of them by abusing me roundly for the various discourtesies I have shown you."

"Don't speak of it," rejoined the other, waving his hand toward the table, on which lay the many documents of which I have before spoken. "Yonder." continued he, "are the papers upon which I rely for the substantiation of my assertions. There you will see a copy of Mr. Delancy's will, the bank books and other papers proving me to be in possession of the money I have stated, and, lastly, a letter or statement drawn up by myself and duly attested by witnesses, in humble home and noted its neatness which the story related to me by Mr. Delancy on his death bed is given, together with my acceptance of the strange but not unnatural conditions under which he, a stranger, left me this enormous fortune. I intended them for the lawyer who should draw vated stations. I talked with her, and me up a deed of gift in Miss Rogers' my liking and admiration grew. Had favor, but I found them very useful when Mr. Gryce showed me the warrant of arrest which had been made out in my name, and I shall be much obliged if you also will cast your eye which Mr. Delancy had laid such stress over them, that nothing like the shadow of a doubt may ever again lie between me and a gentleman whom I feel bound not only to respect but ad-

The artist, overwhelmed, and in a condition of great excitement, took the papers and glanced at them, while the detective, rubbing his hands together, consulted each finger separately, as if in search of an answer to a problem that yet possessed features sufficiently

unaccountable to puzzle him. "Who wrote the letter to Miss Rogers in Miss Hadden's school?" he said, musingly. "Who sent the note of warning that frightened the other poor girl into a flight which ended in her death in the blind alley? And who put poison into the box of bonbons which you bought and sent in good faith to and two hurt, one fatally. this girl? These are three very serious questions."

"You are right," assented Mr. Degraw, "very serious questions, indeed, for in letter and poison we can discern the evidences of mallcious feeling against the girls possessing this one name, which may not yet have expended itself, and which, if we cannot trace its source, may extend itself to the Miss Rogers now staying with took a personal interest in her, nor did Miss Aspinwall, with we do not know what fatal results."

To be continued.

A Bird That Turned.

For an hour or more Baby Florence been walking in the woodlands had with her mamma; they had gathered many beautifully colored leaves and the floor of the forest beneath their feet glowed richly with a carpet of red foliage. Winter had kissed the trees and the rushes and the weeds and they floated brilliant pinions of rainbow

tint. Baby Florence had said nothing for quite a while, so busy had she been with romping along in advance of her mother, but the change in the forest seemed suddenly to impress her.

"Mamma," she said, "why are all the leaves yellow and red? When we came out last time they were green." "Winter causes it, Flo," replied the

mother; "leaves always turn red at this time of the year." They had gone a dozen yards further when the child's eyes detected an unusually bright flash of color among the

trees. It was a red breasted bird that sat a-tilt amid the branches. "Look, mamma, look," cried the little girl eagerly, "there is a birdie that is beginning to turn, too."-New York Herald.

Australian Coal.

The Australian colonies should be able to keep England in coal for a time when her own supply gives out. According to reports made by the Governland, there are no less than 62,000 in the Eastern States of Australia. (after deducting one-third for loss), in MINOR EVENTS OF THE WEEK

WASHINGTON ITEMS. The State Department announced the appointment of Professor John Todd Hill to be Consul-General at Greytown,

Nicaragua. Secretary Shaw stated that Philippine land purchase bonds will be received conditionally as security for public debts.

The President and Mrs. Roosevelt attended the funeral of his cousin, Miss Florence Locke.

The Secretary of State and Mrs. Hay will entertain the President and Mrs. Roosevelt and the Cabinet circle at din-

Secretary Hay will soon go to Thom asville, Ga., for relief from bronchial trouble.

Commander Francis H. Delano, of the Nashville, has been promoted to the rank of captain for conspicuous service at Colon at time of recent revolu-

Lawrence O. Murray, of Chicago, Ill., has been chosen Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Attorney-General Knox has approved titles for the property on the square selected as the site for an office building for the House of Representatives. Secretary Cortelyou has ordered the deportation of the skilled glassblowers

from Stourbridge, England, who were detained at Ellis Island under the Alien Contract law. Dr. Sheldon Jackson, United States General Agent of Education in Alaska, denics the statement attributed to him

concerning slavery in the Aleutian Isl-

The State Department has recog-nized Nathaniel Brandon as Vice-Consul of Panama at New York, and Juan Francisco Arias as Consul of Panama at Mobile, Ala.

OUR ADOPTED ISLANDS.

Ladrones recently looted the municipal treasury in Bosoboso, in Luzon, P. I. They captured the presidente and cut the tendons of his heels. The constabulary pursued them and recovered part of the funds

Major-General MacArthur, who has been studying the defenses of the Hawaiian Islands, sailed for the United States on the Pacific Mail steamship

Governor Taft has left Manila, P. I. for the United States. He will visit Tokio en route to meet the Mikado at the request of the latter. He will be tendered a reception by the citizens upon his arrival at Honolulu.

The agreement for the sale of the friar lands in the Philippines has been signed, to take effect in six months, this time being allowed for surveys and examination of titles.

Alonzo Cruzen, the Puerto Rican Collector of Customs, resigned as the result of the smuggling scandal.

DOMESTIC.

Jumping from the top of the tenstory building of the Methodist Book Concern in New York City, George F. Green, a compositor, was mangled almost beyond recognition.

Attacked and badly beaten by union strikers, E. M. Black, a non-union man, suits at Cincinnati, Ohio, against the Building Trades Council collectively and individually.

The striking union miners arrested for vagrancy at Telluride, Col., were discharged and ordered to work at once or leave the place. Missing for twenty-four hours, the

dead body of Philip F. Wenz, secretary of the Wenz Company, at St. Joseph, Mo., was found hanging in an empty George Calhoun, a negro, of Mont-

gomery, Ala., murdered his wife, shot four other negroes and made his es-An explosion of dynamite near the

Portland mine, at Victor, Col., injured a number of houses. One man was killed and four were

injured as the result of a pitched battle between whites and blacks at Randolph, Tenn. Ten persons, none of them union offi-

cials, who took part in the recent car strike, were indicted for assault at Chicago, Ill. By a premature explosion of dyna-

mite at the Union Iron and Steel Furnace at Ironton, O., one man was killed Because a union engineer was dis-

charged 250 employes of the International Salt Company, at South Chicago, Ill., struck, tying up the works. Jealous of his common law wife, Marie Raasch, Albert Altenhofen, a sa-

loonkeeper, killed her on a crowded street in Chicago, Ill., and then killed Mayor Fleischmann, of Cincinnati, Ohio, conferred with the Humane So-

ciety regarding putting to death dogs running at large. The Mayor was informed that there are 20,000 stray dogs infesting the streets.

FOREIGN.

Despite the bakers' strike in France there was no increase in price or decrease in supply of bread in Paris, and only minor disturbances were reported. Former State Councilor Davidovics, his wife and daughter, were murdered In their home at Belgrade, Servia, by robbers. Two servants were fatally wounded.

The Japanese Government propose to undertake the completion of the Seoul-Fusan Railway under its direct supervision.

Following a violent altercation over the Dreyfus case a duel with swords was fought at Paris, France, between Captain Levy, of the Fifth Regiment of Engineers, and Henry DeMolroy, a leading anti-Semite.

Reports of a plan for the marriage of Alfonso XIII, to his cousin, Maria del Pilar, were current at Madrid, Spain. The statement that Pius X. has received several million dollars left by

Pope Leo has been affirmed, Baron Gevers, the Minister of the Netherlands to the United States, has been selected to succeed Dr. Westerberg, deceased, the former Netherlands

Minister at Rome, Italy. Friends of Captain Dreyfus, in France, are delighted with the prospect of his immediate vindication and restoration to rank in the army.

Japan is negotiating for the purchase of two Chilean warships. The British Foreign Office confirms the report that Great Britain has recognized the Republic of Panama.

Reports from Rome, Italy, say the Mad Mullah has offered to treat with Great Britain through the medium of The Second Chamber of the Dutch

Parliament voted \$1,750,000 to buy new Krupp quick-firing guns for the

King Christian of Denmark had chill at Gmunden, Austria, and had to postpone his return home.

THE GREAT DESTROYER

SOME STARTLING FACTS ABOUT THE VICE OF INTEMPERANCE

Striking Article on the Eating of Candy

in Which is Bound Up a Most Remark able Temperance Lesson-The Young Man Who Craves Sweets is No Drinker The news stands in railroad stations and ferry houses sell among other things individual pieces of candy-at one or two

There are huge chocolate drops, as big as the end of your thumb, other large drops, filled with sweet, thick cream, and so on. In the evenings it is very interesting to watch those who buy these candies. There are very many young boys among the buyers. But there are also a great many young men. They rush up, buy their even-ing newspaper, and take in addition two or three pieces of candy to be eaten on the

This spectacle of young men-clerks and working men-eating candy is new an pleasant.

The man who craves sweet things is almost always a man who uses little or no The man who suddenly gives up the drinking habit feels a strong desire for sugar, for sweet things of all kinds.

And for the same reason the young men whom you see buying candy as they rush

homeward at night are young men of tem-

Temperance is a virtue that gains ground daily all over this country. The candy eating habit should be welcomed as one of the temperate signs.

There is, by the way, a hint for young women and for mothers in this question of

eating candy. If a young man brings you a box of candy and sheepishly eats about half of it before and sneepismy cats about hair of it before you can eat six pieces, he is a young man most promising. You may be quite sure that he is not a cocktail young man, or one of the young men who think "a little whisky is good for the system." Candy and whisky rarely meet in young men's interiors.

On the other hand, there is something queer about the young man who shows plainly that he cares nothing for candy. He may be an exception or he may be a poor goose hiding his real longings because he thinks it unmanly to want sweet things. But usually he is the sort of young person that a girl can well do without.

One other word on the candy question—which may not come up here again for years. Remember, fathers and mothers,

that your child's desire for candy is per-fectly natural and should be gratified.

There is no more wholesome food than pure sugar. The candy which comes near-est to being pure sugar, with a little harmless flavoring, is an excellent thing for

The craving for candy is as natural in a The craving for candy is as natural in a child as the craving for salt among us all. You know that no man or other mammal can do without salt. The old monks, tormenting their bodies for the sake of their souls, imposed many privations upon themselves. But no one ever succeeded in roing without salt. In Africa, where salt is so scarce in some places, the children gathered around white explorers and licked pieces of rock salt, chewing and swallowing it, as our children do with candy. ing it, as our children do with candy.

A father who wants to please his chil-

dren without hurting them can not do bet-ter than take home to them occasionally a pound of plain molasses candy. That is the very best kind. There are other plain candies about as good. And the child that has such candy often—in moderation is al the better for it. Candy disagrees with grown people and

with children sometimes. But if the diet is otherwise sensible, and if there is a craving for candy, it never disagrees with those who eat it.

It is an absolutely natural food. It does harm only when added to an already overworked stomach. The danger about it resides in this fact: it temots the palate and sides in this fact: it tempts the palate and overrules good judgment. Do not let your children fill their stomachs with other things first, and then hurt themselves by adding candy to an already too heavy load. Let them have the candy first—at the beginning of the meal. If it be pure, do the candy the candy deal the candy first—at the beginning of the meal. not hesitate to let them have a good deal of it—say, an eighth. or, for big children a sixth of a pound. Then let them eat the

other things.

A man very well known in New York.

Richard Croker, in fact, said to a friend
that he could not so much as taste candy. on account of dysoepsia. But he was told that if he would take simply milk and candy he could eat and digest all the candy

he wanted to. And to his surprise he found that it was so.

A diet of milk—swallowed slowly in small sips, and of absolutely pure candy pleyion, if kent up for four or six weeks. We wish that the big stores that com-bine great sales with cheap prices would make a specialty of pure and cheap molasses candy, made fresh daily. They should be able to sell it at a profit for twice or three times the price of sugar by the barrel. They would render a genuine service to childhood and to rarents if they would make a feature of this.

service to childhood and to ratenes. they would make a feature of this.

Let them out the "fresh molasses candy for the children" feature in all their advertisements. They will make thousands to the friends and hig ones, too. They of little friends and big ones, too. might even, occasionally, as a Santa Care surprise, send home a quarter pound sam-ple of the candy free, with the mother's purchase, wrapped up in a statement somewhat on the lines of this editorial.— From an Editorial in the New York Evening Journal.

A Ruined Career. One of the best Greek scholars in New York is a guard on the Sixth avenue ele-vated railway. Not long ago a famous professor in one of our leading universities published a volume on certain fea-tures of the ancient Greek dialects, of interest only to scholars. The "L" guard re-ferred to wrote to a newspaper, pointing out several errors made by the professor out several errors made by the professor in his book, and signed nimself by his road and number. After a month's search a correspondent found the man. "How does it happen," he said, showing his card, "that you, a Greek scholar of first rank, should be doing such work as this?" He looked at the correspondent sadly and his this?" He looked at the correspondent sadly, and his red face flushed more than usual. "I was first Hellenist of my year at Dublin," he rephed. "My Greek is still what it used to be, but my career has been ruined by-whisky!"-Christian Cen-

Liquor the Chief Bar. Cardinal Manning once said: "For thirty-five years I have been priest and bishop in London, and I now approach my eightieth year, and have learned some lessons, and the first is this: The chief bar to the working of the Holy Spirit of God methes soy's of men and women is intoxin the souls of men and women is intor-icating liquor. I know of no antagonist icating liquor. I know of no antagonist to that good Spirit more direct, more sub-

tle, more stealthy, more ubiquitous, than intoxicating drink." The Crusade in Brief.

William Brown was arrested at New ficids, N. H., in a drunken stupor, after having consumed forty bottles of beer. Governor Yates, of Illinois, has appointof five commissioners to purchase a statue of Frances E. Willard, and erect the same in Statuary Hall, Washington. She was against whisky to the end and her memory is blessed.

A sad comment on the liquor traffic following the flag as it does, is the fact that in the advancement of the English flag and civilization, the Mohammedan, when they see a drunken man, designate him as a Jesus man.

The barkeepers have a total abstinence association; nobody knows better than the bartender that total abstinence is the only sure way to avoid drunkenness. The conclusions of the committee of fif-

teen scientists appointed in 1896 to study the liquor question is that: "Much of the so-called scientific temperance instruction in public schools is unscientific and undesirable, and is not in accord with the opinions of the large majority of the leading physiologists in Europe.

In Belgium statistics indicate that whereas for fifteen years the population has only increased fourteen per cent., the consumption of alcohol has increased thirty-seven per cent., and with it insanity has increased forty-five per cent., crime seventy-four per cent., suicide eighty per

cent., and poverty 150 per cent.

· The Junday Breakfasi Table

A Prayer of Gratitude.

Lord, for the erring thought Not into evil wrought; Lord, for the wicked will Betrayed and baffled still; For the heart from itself kept, Our thanksgiving accept.

For ignorant hopes that were Broken to our blind prayer; For pain, death, sorrow sent Unto our chastisement; or all loss of seeming good, Quicken our gratitude.

-W. D. Howells.

A Lost Opportunity.

It was the Sunday before Christmas Christmas cheer was everywhere—in the fragrant wreaths of evergreen, in the joy ous strains of church choirs, in the smiting faces of men, wômen and children. It seemed as if pain and loss and struggle and failure and death were forgotten is the joy that Christ was born.

But not even Christmas could esse the

But not even Christmas could ease the ache of one heart. In all the great city there was probably no woman more wretched than Agnes Farrar. She had once had all that seemed best in life—health hearty weekt health, beauty, wealth, charm, love. She had had them, and had spent them. She had chosen ten years before to ignore the requirements of her world and to be-come a law unto herself. She had found come a law unto herself. She had found the fate which surely waits for a woman who so chooses. On Christmas Sunday she faced the truth. Her money was gone. She had bartered her health for pleasure. Only faint traces remained of her beauty and her grace. Of the abuncant loves once given her without stint, she had chosen the cheapest and poorest, and the last fragment of that was gone. "I've come to the end of it all!" she said to herself, as she stood before the dull mirror in her cheap ledging on Christ. said to herself, as she stood before the dull mirror in her cheap lodging on Christmas Sunday morning. With that word upon her lips she resolved to go to church—for the last time. She thought with a bitter smile that she would at least be warm there.

She entered the church as if in a dream the lips shown up the broad side at least be well with the church as if in a dream the lips shown up the broad side at least be shown up the show

As she was shown up the broad aisle a flood of memories swept over her. An-mem and Scripture lesson and prayer passed unheeded. One scene after another of her life unrolled before her inward vison, until she was suddenly conscious that she was weeping, and that a gracious wo-man beside her looked at her with gentle, pitying eyes. She roused herself and turned her face up to the preacher. He

she had caught no word of the sermon.

Now this was what she heard:

"One night a man was groping his way alone across a dark and dangerous moor. clone across a dark and dangerous moor. Suddenly he slipped and fell into a deep pit. In vain he cried for help. In vain he struggled to climb up the steep sides of the pit. Morning broke, and found him wounded, thirsty, exhausted, despairing. "Then there came to the mouth of the pit a Buddhist. He looked down at the broken figure and said, 'O wretched man, your struggles are useless, and your suffering is because of your struggles. Cease to desire to live and all will be well. Fix your thought upon eternity, and presentivy ou will find Nirvana,' and the Buddhist passed on.

"Then there came a student of Confuc-"Then there came a student of Conucius. He also bent over the pit to see
whence the cries came. Then he said, My
poor man, I see plainly that you have
disobeyed the great moral laws of this
world. You have neglected to reverence
your parents or the state. If you were
up here I would gladly instruct you in
these duties but as you are quite incarthese duties, but as you are quite incap-able of getting out, I must leave you.'
"Then there came a Mussulman, and ha counseled patience and belief in one God,

and also went his way.

But at last there came a Christian. He leaned over the pit, and he called to the man, who by this time was almost dead, 'Courage! Courage, my brother! We will help you. I was once in that very pit was all of the country of the course. help you. I was once in that very pit myself. Be of good cheer; keep your hope a little longer and I will return. Then the Christian hurried away, and quickly returned with men and ropes and food and drink. They all worked togethfood and drink. They all worked together to lift the injured man out of the pit; and among them as they worked his dim eyes seemed to see a strange Figure, like as it had been the Son of God. So presently the man was saved from his dire extremity, and was carried by strong, loving hands to his journey's end."

The woman in the pew hung on the preacher's words. When they ceased she fell upon her knees as he gave the benefiction. There was a hushed moment, and

diction. There was a hushed moment, and then the congregation ruse and began to move slowly out. The lady in whose pew the woman had sat glanced at her tearstained face. She thought quickly, "That woman is in trouble. She lacks as if she woman is in trouble. She looks as if she had been hearing her own story. I won-der if I dare speak to her?"

While she hesitated a friend whispered,

"What time to-morrow can you come to the Christmas sale?" The two moved the Christmas sale?" The two moved down the aisle talking quietly. Agnes followed them—hoping she knew not what. They halted at the door and others joined them. "What a thrilling sermon!" said one. "I never heard him more inspired," answered another.

The woman, now very pale, listened for a few minutes to their friendly chat. She heard one call back. "A merry Christmas to you all!" and then as the vestibule was almost empty, she made her way out. A fine, dry snow was bitter cold. was falling, and the wind For an instant salvation had seemed possible to her, although she know not how. But the moment of hope had passed.

black pall of temptation, failure and despair wrapped itself again around and hid her forever from the eyes of those who might have rescued her.

The next day the preacher said to one of his most useful parishioners, "Who was that striking woman in your pew yester-

'I never saw her before," she replied. "Do you know, I was almost tempted to "Do you know, I was almost the seemed speak to her after service; she seemed by the sermon. But some much moved by the sermon. But some friends came up, and she slipped away."
"I wish you had snoken to her," said the preacher.—Youth's Companion.

Life a Reality.

Life is reality—a useful, usable, noble reality. Happy, too, when once the crim idol Self has been dethroned forever. For it is a truth which we all have to learn-oftentimes through many a bitter lessonthat we can never be happy until we cease to make ourselves so .- Dinah Mu ock Craik.

Simply Ways Up the Mountain. Trouble and labor and weariness are simply ways up the mountain of loftier destinies. Tears may be given to wash destinies. our eyes that we may see these loftier destinies more clearly.

"The grave itself is but a covered bridge Lealing from light to light through a brief darkness." Rejoice then even in the difficult and darkened ways: the larger, loftier life. the reason in them is just

The Best Advice. Whatever you do, begin with God .-

Matthew Henry.

Plan to Dam Thames.

A \$25,000,000 scheme to dam the Thames River, at Gravesend, England, providing locks capable of accommodating the largest ships afloat, is being considered by Parliament. By this means the difficulties of navigation at low tide, one of the chief causes of the retrogression of London as port, will be overcome and ships draw ing thirty feet of water can proceed to London Bridge at any hour, day or night, anchor anywhere, lie alongside any wharf, remaining always at the same level. The dam will provide London with a lake for dam will provide Bondon with a lake for-ty-five miles long and a quarter of a mile broad, available for pleasure, traffic boat-ing, sailing and fishing, which is rendered impossible by strong tides now sweeping the river.

SUNDAY

TERNATIONAL LESSON COMMENTS FOR JANUARY 17.

ect The Baptism and Temptation of Jesus, Matt. iii., 13 to iv., 11-Golden Cert. Matt. ill., 17-Memory Verses, iv., 4-Commentary on the Day's Lesson

The baptism (vs. 13-17). 13. "Comth Jesus." So far as we know this was His first public act since He was twelve years oid. "To Jordan." Probably at Aenon near to Salim (John 3: 2, 3), a day's Aen on near to Salim (John 3: 2, 3), a day's journey from Nazareth. "Unto John." Although John was His cousin we are told (John 1: 33) that he "knew Him net;" which may mean that John did not know Jesys to be the Messiah. "To he baptized." Any confession of sin was of course out jof the question. There was only a profession on the part of Jesus that as an Irraelite He became subject to the law and that He was connected with him. law, and that He was connected with humanity by the ties of blood, of suffering and of love. This act was an endorsement of John and a solemn inauguration of his ministry.

of John and a solemn mangulation ministry.

14. "Forhad." Earnestly and pressing by opposed Him. "I have need," etc. Alcohogh John was filled with the Holy Ghost from his birth (Luke I: 15), yet he needed the baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire. He needed to receive a larger measure of the gifts and graces of the Holy Spirit. 15. "Suffer it to be so now." These were the first words of Christ's public ministry. In this Jesus humbled Hipself at the very outset. "Fulfil all Hipself at the very outset. "Fulfil all Hirhself at the very outset. "Fulfil all righteousness." To leave nothing undone which would be honoring to the requirements of God. "He suffered Him." The ments of God. "He suffered flim." The same modesty which led him at first to decline the honor Christ offered him now caused him to perform the service Christ

decline the honor Christ offered him now caused him to nerform the service Christ enioned upon him.

16: "The Heavens were opened." Luke says that Jesus prayed as soon as He was baplized (Luke 3: 21). Here is the first recorded prayer of Christ and its answer. It was when He was praying that the Shirit was sent down unon Him, and in all brobability it was this that He was praying for. A threefold sign was given:

1. The Heavens opened. 2. The dove descended. 3. The Father snake. "He saw." Christ saw it (Mark 1: 10), and John saw it (John 1: 33, 34), and it is probable that all who were present saw it, for this was intended to be His public inauguration. "Like a dove." There has been a difference of opinion as to whether this was a real, literal dove. Luke says it was in a "bodily" shape like a dove (Luke 3: 22). 17. "My beloved Son." Jesus Christ is the Son of God from eternity. He never began to be His Son. He was also His Son hecause of His supernatural hirth, and He was His Son "by special designation to the work of the world's Redeemer."

II. The first temptation (vs. 14). 1. "Theh." Immediately after His baptism. Such are the violent alternations of human experience; baptized and tempted; approved of God and handed over to the devil. "Of the spirit." Mark says, the Spirit driveth Him. A divine influence led Him on. "Into the wilderness." Tradition has fixed upon a high ridge called Quarantania, near Jericho. Mark says He was with the wild beats, "To be tempted." Christ

ericho. Mark says He was with the beasts. "To be tempted." Christ wild beasts. "To be tempted." Christ begins His work with a personal encounter with Satan. To tempt is, literally, to stretch out, to try the strength of Temptation is the testing of a person.

2. "Forty days." Moses, Elijah and our "Forty days." Moses, Elijah and our could fast forty days because they in communion with God and living wenly life. Luke says He was temptaring the whole forty days. The rear was powerful, personal and incly real. Christ for our sakes met conquered the tempter's utmost of the "Afterward an hungered." After or ty days were ended. 3. "Tempter " Hoys were ended. 3. "Tempter" Læd tensel strengt h. "Afterward an hungered." After the for ty days were ended. 3. "Tempter came." How Satan appeared to Christ we do not know, but if he came in bodily form it must have been as an angel of light. "If Thou be." Beware of temptation that comes with an if in its mouth. "The Son of God." The consciousness of His divine Sonship may now in a measure have been withheld. Alone in the wilderness and weak and worn from fasting, Satan saw his chance. "Stones bread." You are hungry; now if You are the Son of God use the power You have to supply Your necessition. power You have to supply Your necessi-ties, and thus prove Your divinity. In this first temptation Satan tempts our He appeals to the animal nature He appeals to the approaches and By this avenue he approaches and Lord, first.

nirst. By this avenue he approaches and conquers the great majority of mankind. Beneath this temptation of bodily appetites all gluttons, drunkards and debauchees have fallen and become the devil's prey. 4. "It is written." Deut. 8: 3. Jesus answered the devil by using the sword of the Spirit. "Not live by bread alone." Human support depends not on bread, but upon "God's unfailing word of promise and pledge of all needful providential care." and care."

III. The second temple.

5. "Pinnacle of the temple."

changes from the wilderness

known pinnacle

changes thou the wilderness

changes from the wil second temptation (vs. 5-7). 5. "Pinnacle of the temple." The scene changes from the wilderness to Jerusalem. Some we'll known pinnacle must have been intended, probably the royal porch on the southern side of the temple. 6. "Cast thyself down." In His first reply to the 'de'vil Jesus had shown His unbounded confidence in God. Now Satan takes Him as that very point. If Thou be the Son of God cast Thyself from this pinnacle. All the world will wonder at be the Son of God cast Thyself from this pinnacle. All the world will wonder at so grand an exploit. This was a temptation to presumption, or as Mr. Farrar says, to spiritual pride. "For it is written." The devil has a Bible, but he misquotes and misapplies. "Give his angels charge." A mutilated quotation of Psa. 31: 11. 7. "Tempt." Deut. 6: 16. To tempt God is to put Him to the proof—to demand evidence of His power and of His will to fulfil His promises, instead of waiting patiently and trusting. This temp-

demand evidence of His power and of His will to fulfil His promises, instead of waiting patiently and trusting. This temptation appealed to the love of show. Those carried away from God by worldly pleasures or the winties of fashion fall here.

IV. The third temptation (vs. 8-11). 8. "Exceeding figh mountain." Some high mountain in Judea, where a general view could be had of the country. "Sheweth ... kingdoms of the world." The root of the third temptation lay in the supposition that the kingdoms of the world were the devil's kingdoms and that he could dispose of them. 9. "Worship me." Here the devil appears in his true character. Christ was probably asked to worship "not by an external act of homage, but by using force and establishing a temporal kingdom."

10. "Get thee hence." Jesus parleys with him no longer, but with authority commands him to go to his own place. The third temptation appealed to the ambition. By this temptation the great men of the world have fallen in myriads. 11. "Devil leaveth Him." Satan had made the strongest effort of which he was capable and had been baffled at every point. "Angele ministered" Brought that

"Angels . . ministered." Brought that tood that was necessary to support nature-

Military Division of the Country.

The general staff of the army has sub-mitted to Secretary Root a plan for dividing the country into military divisions, each of which is to be composed of two or more departments and commanded by a major-general. The plan will give the surplus major-generals something to do. Under the proposed reorganizations the Department of the East would become the Division of the East, with division headquarters at Governor's Island. The division would consist of the Department of the East, with headquarters at Boston, and the Department of the South with and the Department of the South, with

Fares According to Weight. Officers of the Pueblo and Beulah Val-Officers of the Pheblo and Bedian Val-lev Railway, an electric line seventeen miles long, which has just been completed, have adopted a new system whereby pas-sengers over the road will pay according to their weight instead of by the mile. Passengers will step upon scales at the ticket office and will be charged so much a nound.

English Adopting Japanese Custom. English epicures are adopting the Japof eating chrysanthemums in the form of a salad.

Our Trepical Imports. The United States imports of tropical fruit aggregate \$1,000,000 a day.